



NRC NEWS

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NRC RELEASES YORK, PA., SITE FOR UNRESTRICTED USE

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has granted the request of Molycorp, Inc., to terminate its license to possess radioactive material at a former chemical manufacturing plant near York, Pa., and released the site for unrestricted use.

The company used ores containing low levels of radioactive material as feedstock in the chemical manufacturing process.

“Molycorp has completed site decommissioning and post-decommissioning groundwater monitoring of the site as set out in its NRC-approved decommissioning plan, and the land is now safe for other uses,” said Daniel M. Gillen, Deputy Director for the Decommissioning Directorate, NRC Division of Waste Management and Environmental Protection. “We have verified this assessment through independent radiation surveys by the NRC and its contractor.”

The property is located in Spring Garden Township just outside York city limits. It occupies approximately 6 acres bounded by North Sherman Street to the east, Olive Street to the north, Hudson Street to the west and the active Norfolk and Southern Railroad line to the south. In a January 1993 letter to the NRC, Molycorp announced that all operations using NRC-licensed material at the York site had ceased.

All buildings on the site have been decontaminated and removed, and surface and subsurface soils have been remediated. Based on these actions taken by the licensee, the staff’s review of the licensee’s radiation surveys, and the results of the staff’s confirmatory surveys, the NRC concluded that the licensee has completed the decommissioning activities in accordance with its approved decommissioning plan, and the site is suitable for unrestricted release.

The NRC published a notice of the company’s proposed license termination in the *Federal Register* on February 26, 2001, and offered an opportunity to request a hearing. No requests for a hearing were received.

Molycorp is still actively cleaning up another former chemical manufacturing facility, located in Washington, Pa.

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